



The Haverford School Gwinn Lecture



Exploring the Solar System through Space Systems Engineering

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MIT SB '12 SM '14 ScD '17

Haverford '08

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Outline



- Why focus on space?
- From Haverford to MIT
- MIT research highlights
 - Intro to SPHERES
 - Docking ports and Halo structures
 - Snippet of doctoral research
- JPL flight projects
 - Lunar Flashlight
 - MarCO
- Concluding remarks





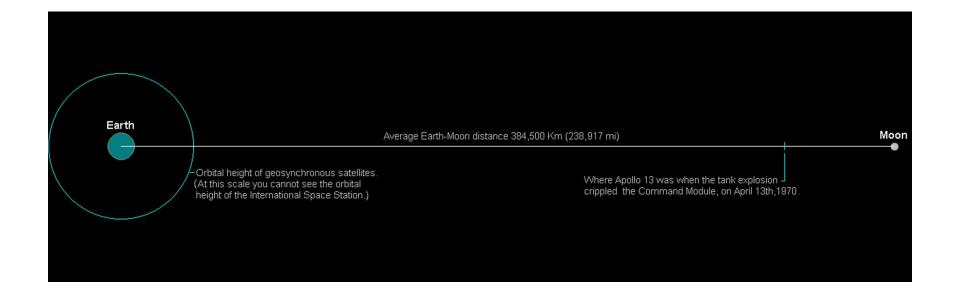
Where We've Gone





Where We've Gone



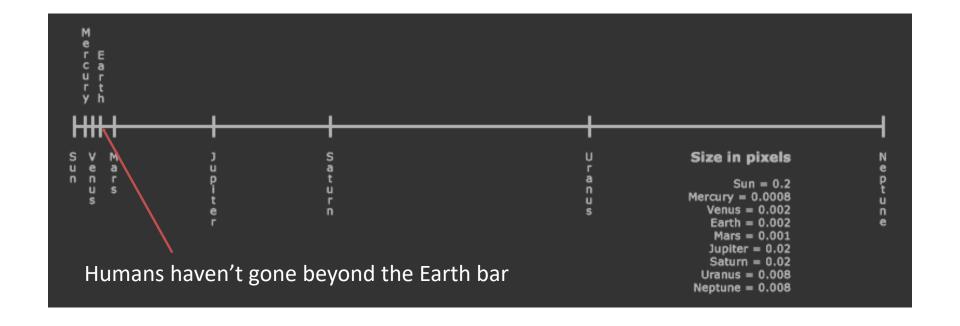






NASA

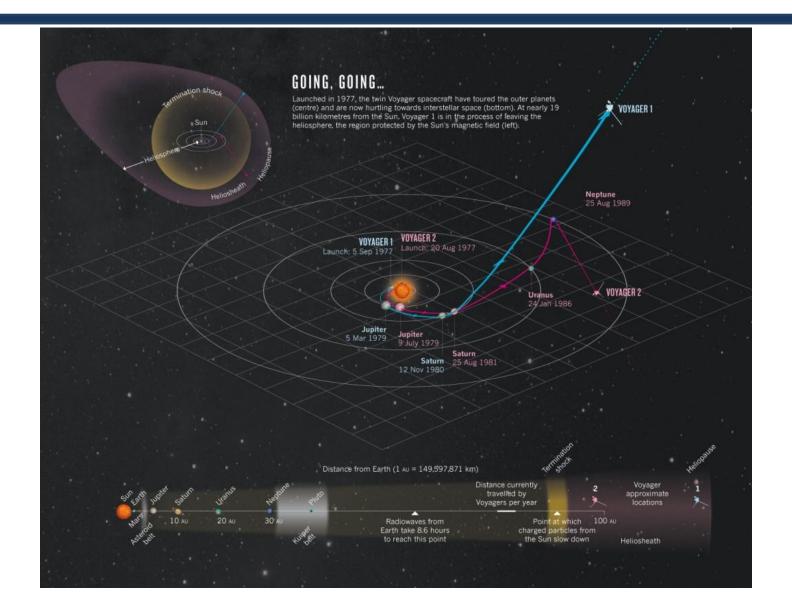
The Scale of the Solar System





How Far Humanity Has Reached

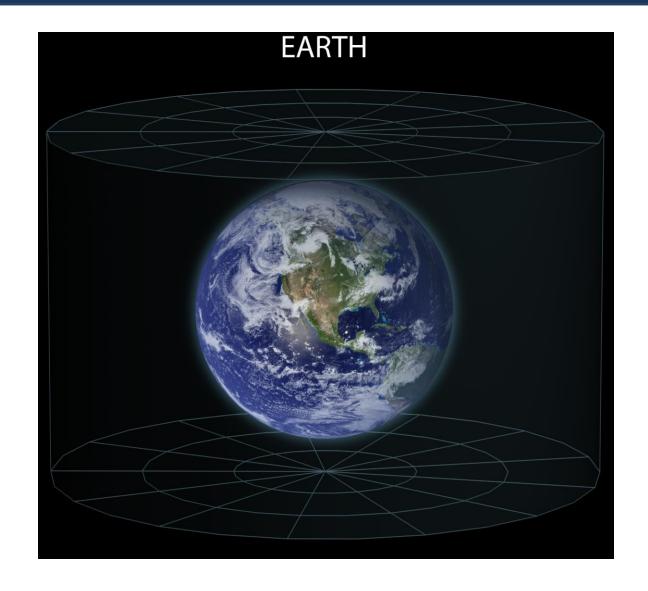








Where We Are

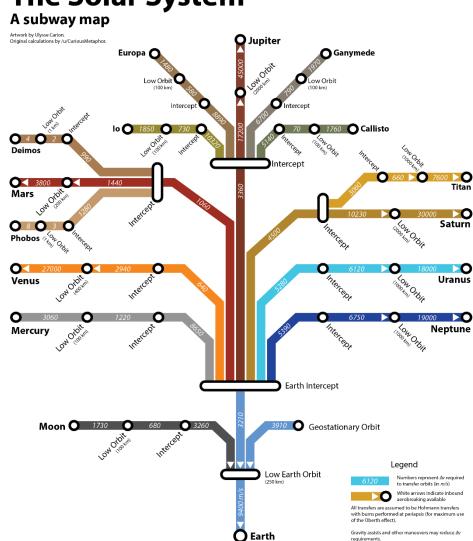




Getting There is Hard



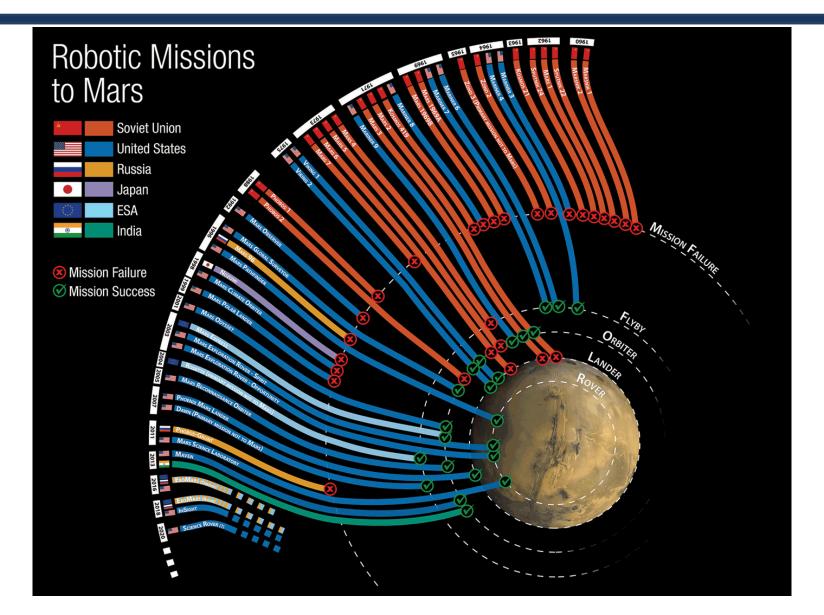
The Solar System





Getting There is Hard









Getting There is Hard – But Fun!



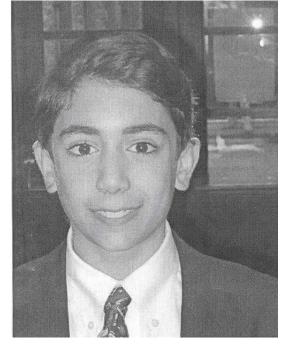
Working on MarCO in the CubeSat Lab



Haverford Foundation



- Entered Haverford in 5th grade
 - Dr. Turner's science class astronaut reports
- Flying Club 7th and 8th grade
 - Self-teaching how to fly flight simulators
- Flight instruction
 - First flight at Brandywine airport August, 2003
 - Solo on 16th birthday
 - Checkride passed on July 25, 2008
- Tailored classes toward STEM
 - Ms. Cleffi's biology class
 - Ms. O'Brien's physics classes
 - Mr. Maley's electronics class
 - Mr. Rooney's engineering class



Freshman Year



High School – College Transition



- Creating a new reputation
 - A "reset" on how others perceive you
- Getting used to "low" grades
 - High grades in high school don't guarantee high grades in college
- Homesickness and feeling isolated
 - Everyone is making the transition together
- Study hall periods can grow to become whole days
 - Time management becomes increasingly crucial



Freshman Year



SPHERES Motivation



- Develop a platform to demonstrate and validate metrology, control, autonomy, and artificial intelligence algorithms for distributed satellite systems (DSS)
- Demonstrate different configurations of DSS
 - Rendezvous and docking algorithms
 - Servicing missions
 - Space assembly
 - Autonomous formation flight
 - Optical telescopes (Stellar Imager), space based radar
 - Approved by SERB May 2008: Fractionated Spacecraft (DARPA)
- Provide a representative environment for the demonstrations
 - 6 DOF, long duration micro gravity

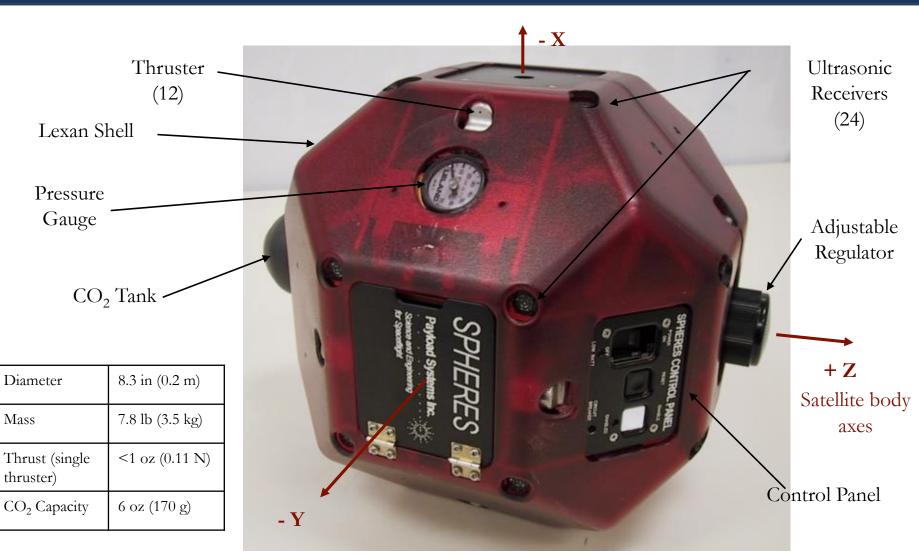


If you can't bring the space environment to the laboratory, take the laboratory into space



SPHERES Satellite Overview







Mir

SPHERES Docking Ports

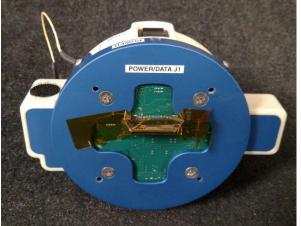










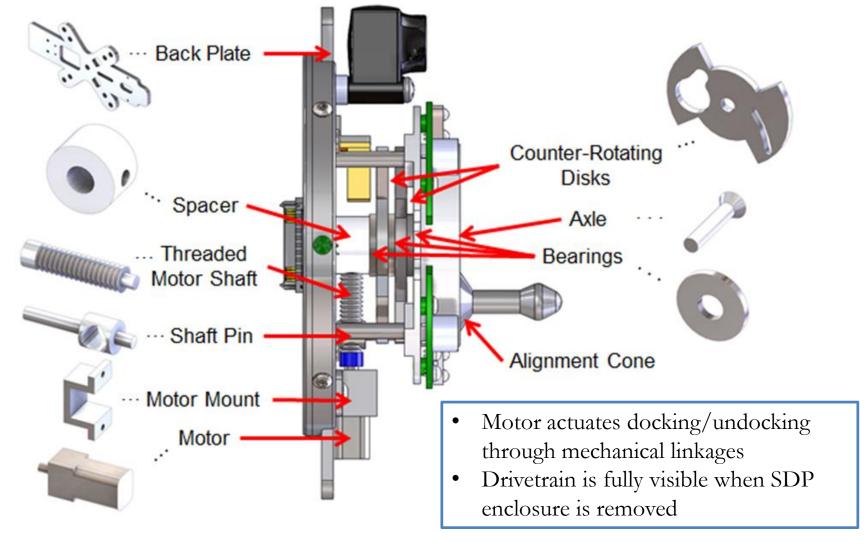






SDP Drive Train



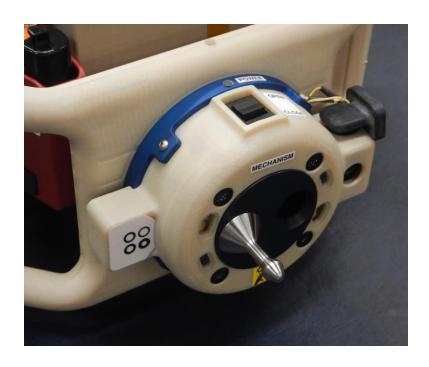






Attachment to Satellites





Directly to SPHERES Halo



Via Standoff to SPHERES Satellite



Halo System Overview



HP 2 (Not Visible)

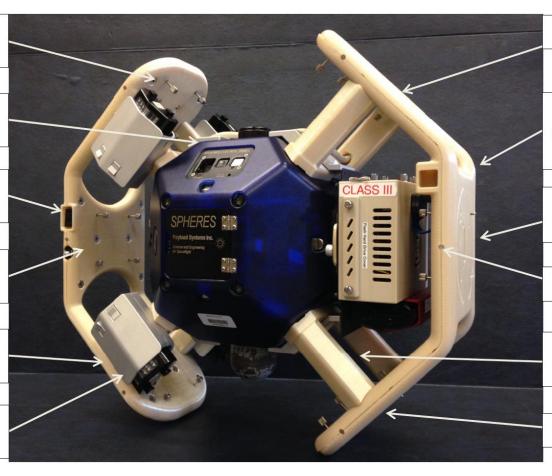
Support Sleeve

Main Power Switch

HP 3 (Not Visible)

HP 4 (Not Visible)

4x Battery Holder



HP 1

USB Port (Ethernet Port Not Visible)

HPG (Goggles)

12x Port LED

4x Support Struts

HP 5





Reduced Gravity Testing





Science Accomplished

- →Inertial ID multiple hardware configurations
- →Plume impingement characterization of the Halo structure
- →Global metrology performance with a Halo in 6DOF
- → Docking repeatability and Controllability of several aggregated systems

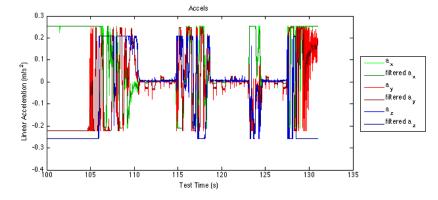




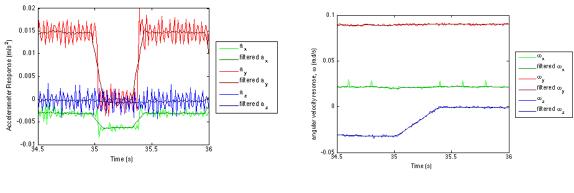
Sample RGA Thruster Pulse Analysis



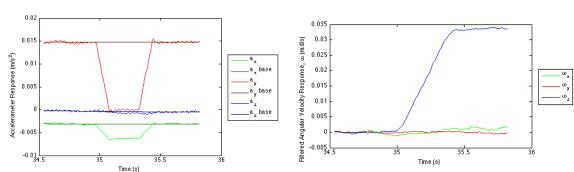
Accelerometer response through a single parabola



Raw accelerometer and gyro data of a thruster pulse with a moving average filter



Final acceleration and angular velocity response to thruster pulse





Accomplishments of TS078: SDP Checkout



- > Docked calibration and hardware checkout
- ➤ Mass ID of newly integrated systems
- Global metrology-only docking attempt
- **Camera and metrology docking attempt** to integrate the new sensor during approach
- Demonstration of **reconfigurable controller** for both translational and rotational maneuvers





Accomplishments of TS081: SDP Science 1



- Record a satellite tumbling
 about its intermediate axis in
 6DOF microgravity for
 educational use and development
 of new computer vision tracking
 algorithms
- Demonstrate improved
 reconfigurable controller
 during docked translation and
 rotation maneuvers
- Demonstrate repeatable docking approaches using both global metrology and the docking port camera







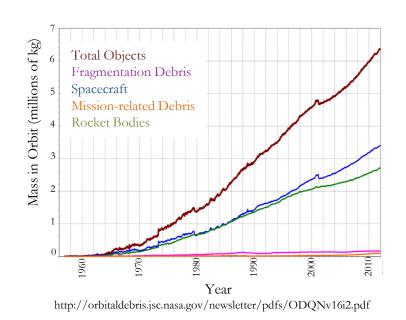




Motivation: Mission Applications

- Future missions requiring soft docking with potentially tumbling Targets
 - Spacecraft Servicing [Guo, Wang, Reintsema, Fredrickson, Horsham]
 - Spacecraft Assembly [Barnhart, Guo, Chu, Stroupe]
 - Active Debris Removal (ADR) [Lampariello, Hillenbrand, JSC, Reintsema]
- Goal: Soft docking with uncooperative, naturally tumbling, rigid bodies with uncertain properties
 - Study ADR of rocket bodies because of extensibility to other missions

	Target	Servicing	Assembly	ADR
Technical	Uncooperative	✓		✓
	Tumbling	✓		✓
	Flexible	✓	✓	
	Need Multiple Dockings		✓	
	Need Soft Dockings	✓	✓	✓
	Uncertain Properties	✓		✓
Operational	Threat to Others/Urgency			✓
	Currently Orbiting	✓		✓





Problem Statement

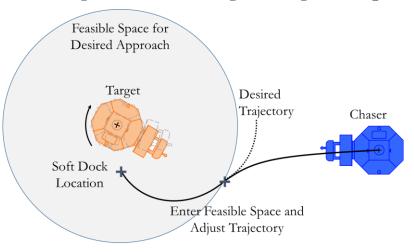


• Scenario:

- A rigid, uncooperative, on-orbit target is observed to be tumbling
- Want to deorbit the target with autonomous chaser satellite
- Risk of damaging chaser and generating more debris

• Objective:

- Improve design of chaser for soft docking to target object with uncertain properties
- Reduce the risks through the use of 1g testing to help validate 0g simulations





Challenges Faced in ADR Scenario



Goal: Soft docking with uncooperative, naturally tumbling, rigid bodies with uncertain properties

- Urgency requires computational efficiency
- <u>Minimize fuel</u> consumption
- Target properties are initially <u>uncertain</u>
 [Riesing, Gottlieb, Vallado, Titov, Schueller, Simon]
- Adhere to <u>constraints</u> (e.g. contact velocity and Chaser acceleration)

[Steigler]

• <u>Coupled</u> translations and rotations

Trajectory Generation

Chaser/Target
Matching

Simulation Validation

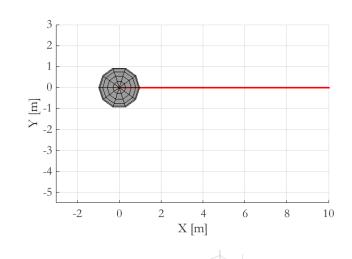


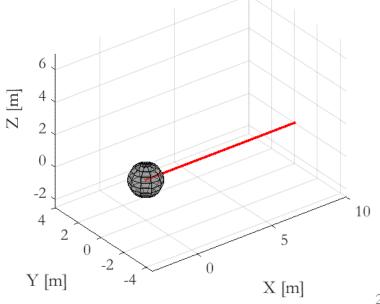
Key Definitions



- "Docking" refers to docking, capture, or berthing
 - Occur quickly compared to orbital period
- "Target" refers to a rocket body requiring soft contact docking
- "Chaser" refers to an ADR satellite capable of thrusting in any direction
- "Synchronous" refers to approaching along the Target's docking axis to maintain Target lock

SDTT: Synchronous Docking to a Tumbling Target





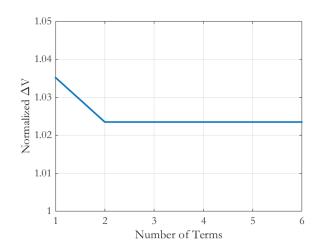


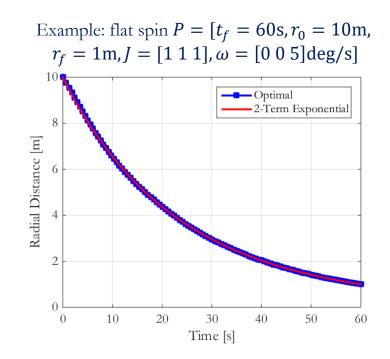


Efficient Parameterization of a Trajectory

Thesis Contribution: Identified that a reduced parameterization of the optimal trajectory exists to enable rapid optimization

- Specify $P = [t_f, r_0, r_f, J, \omega]$ properties for various tumbles
- Consider ΔV expenditure for translation
- Parameterized the optimal trajectory using four parameters $r(t) = b_1 e^{-c_1 t} + b_2 e^{-c_2 t}$





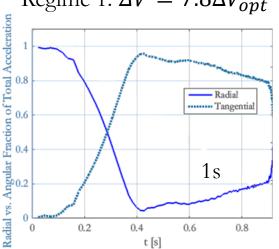
Example	Optimal	2-Term Exponential
ΔV Percent	100	102
Computation Time Percent	100	23



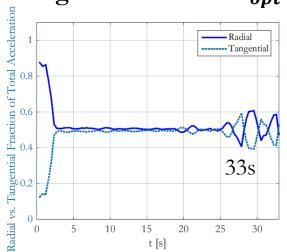
How Acceleration Terms Interact to Create Minimum ΔV Trajectory

- Varying t_f enables identification of operation regimes based on acceleration terms near fuel minimum
- ΔV for Flat Spin from 10m to 1m at 5deg/s 200 250 Docking Time [s]
- Radial: $a_{centripetal} = \omega \times (\omega \times r)$ and $a_{linear} = \ddot{r}$
- Tangential: $a_{Coriolis} = 2\omega \times \dot{r}$ and $a_{angular} = \dot{\omega} \times r$

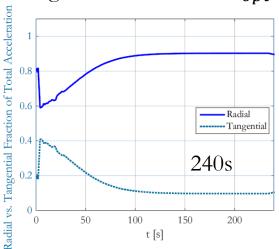
Regime 1: $\Delta V = 7.8 \Delta V_{opt}$



Regime 2: $\Delta V = \Delta V_{opt}$



Regime 3: $\Delta V = 2.9 \Delta V_{opt}$



Thesis Contribution: Found that minimum fuel trajectories match tangential and radial acceleration





Trajectory Generation from Flat Spin Differential Equation

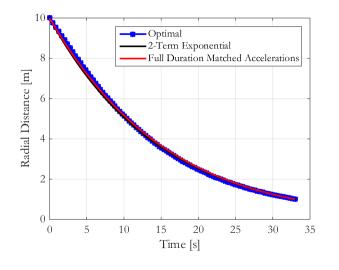


Flat spin matched acceleration case requires only two parameters to be found using boundary conditions

- Flat spin with constant spin rate:
 - $-2\omega\dot{r} + \dot{\omega}r = \omega^2 r + \ddot{r}$
 - General solution $r(t) = c_1 e^{\omega t} + c_2 t e^{\omega t}$
- Boundary conditions to solve for parameters

$$- (r_0, t_0), (r_f, t_f) \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} e^{\omega t_0} & t_0 e^{\omega t_0} \\ e^{\omega t_f} & t_f e^{\omega t_f} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_0 \\ r_f \end{bmatrix}$$

• Flat spin trajectory generation reduces computation cost to solving for two constants without optimization or propagation



	Optimal	2-Term Exponential	Matched Acceleration
ΔV	2.247m/s	2.262m/s	2.248m/s
Computation Time Percent	100	25	0.02





Differential Equation to Find Optimal Trajectory



- Generic tumble case:
 - Define state $x = \begin{bmatrix} r \\ \dot{r} \end{bmatrix}$

- Then:
$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0_{3\times3} & I_{3\times3} \\ C_{3\times3} & B_{3\times3} \end{bmatrix} x = A(t)x$$
 (LTV), with

$$B_{3\times 3}, = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_3 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 & 0 & -\omega_1 \\ -\omega_2 & \omega_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 Time depends requires number
$$C_{3\times 3} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_2^2 + \omega_3^2 & -\omega_3 - \omega_1 \omega_2 & \omega_2 - \omega_1 \omega_3 \\ \omega_3 - \omega_1 \omega_2 & \omega_1^2 + \omega_3^2 & -\omega_1 - \omega_2 \omega_3 \\ -\omega_2 - \omega_1 \omega_3 & \omega_1 - \omega_2 \omega_3 & \omega_2^2 + \omega_1^2 \end{bmatrix}$$
 Time depends requires number propagation

Time dependence requires numerical

- Boundary conditions specified for forward or backward propagation as piecewise LTI system
 - \dot{r}_0, r_0, r_f for forward propagation
 - \dot{r}_f , r_0 , r_f for backward propagation

Each propagation of the LTV system takes 0.05% the time of the full optimization





Lunar Flashlight Mission





- Lunar Flashlight spacecraft
 - 6U CubeSat
 - Launching as secondary payload on SLS EM-1
 - Approximately 8 month mission, final 2 months are lunar science orbits
 - Payload consists of laser diode and onboard spectrometer to measuring reflected light
- Collaboration between JPL and Marshall Spaceflight Center (Propulsion, Science)





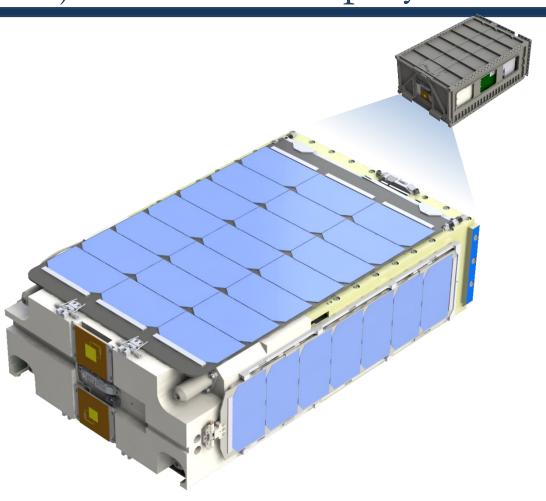
Lunar Flashlight within Deployer





Lunar Flashlight Ejected from Deployer

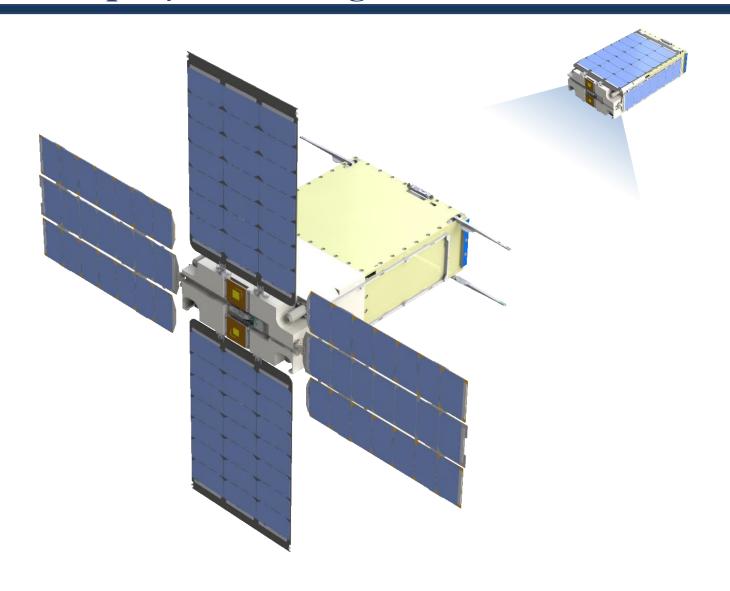








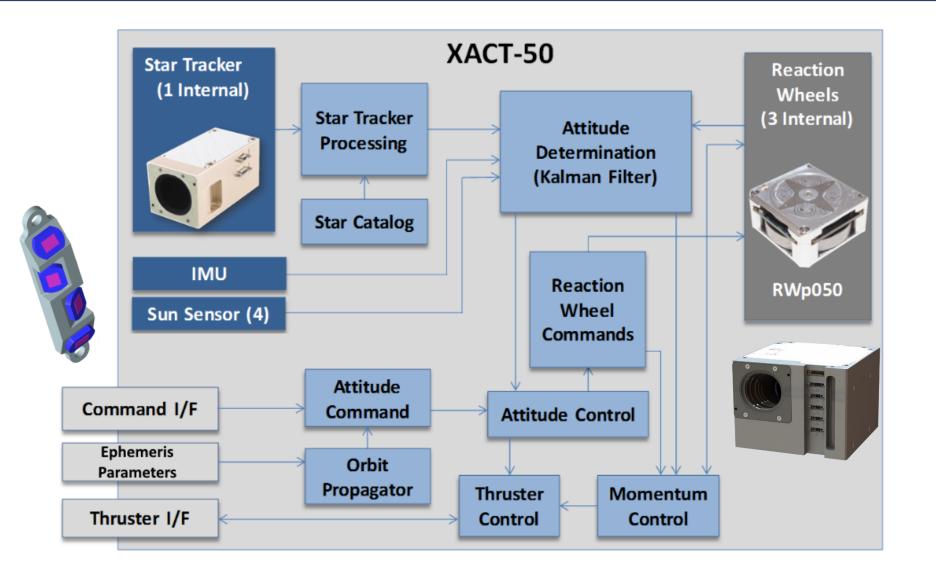






Lunar Flashlight's XACT-50







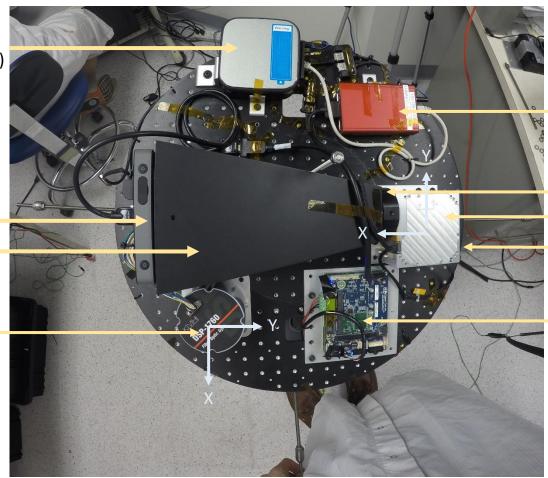
Testing the Lunar Flashlight ACS



SSDT Quantum Plus (Data Collection Computer)

SSDT SFS — SSDT SFS Baffle

SSDT KVH1760 IRU



LF RDP (Data Collection)

SSDT SRU Optics

LF XACT

LF Sun Sensor

SFS Computer(SFS Screen Computer)

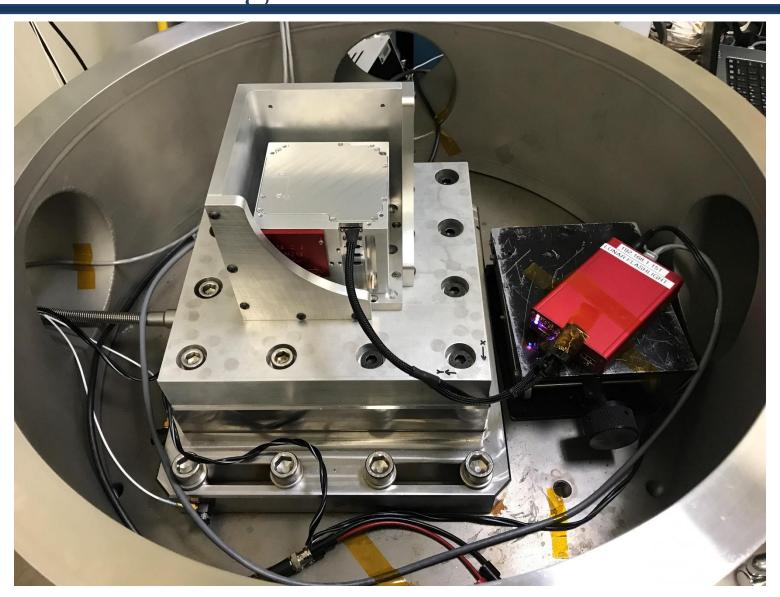
UNDERNEATH:

Atlas Board (SSDT Control Computer) PDUs and Batteries



Jitter Testing (Z-Axis) of Lunar Flashlight Reaction Wheels







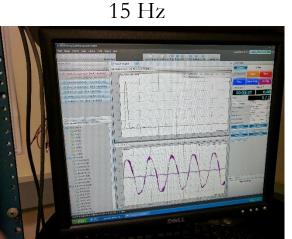




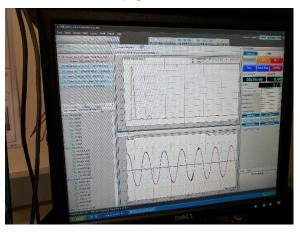
Calibrated sensors are necessary to ensure that reported values can be trusted – run separate calibration tests X-Configuration Y-Configuration



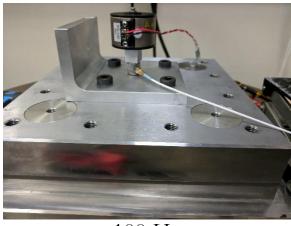




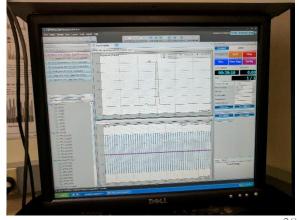
20 Hz



Z-Configuration



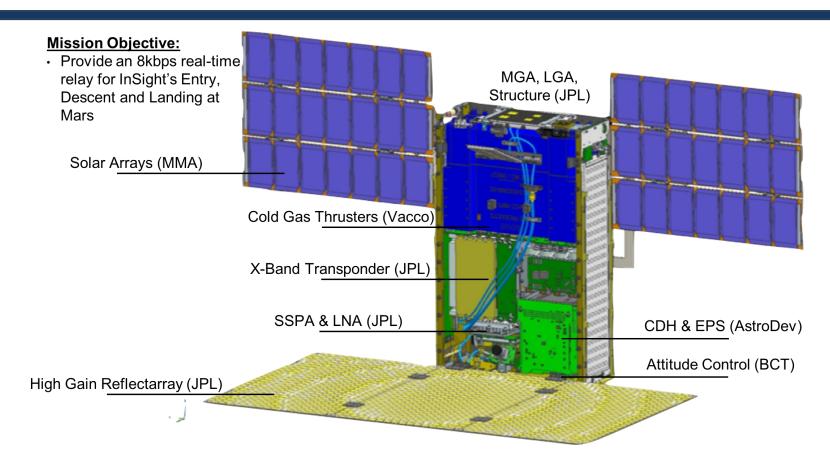
100 Hz





MarCO





MarCO Overview:

Volume: 2 x 6U (12x24x36cm)

Mass: 14.0 kg
Power Generation:

Earth: 35 W

Data Rates: 62-8,000 bps

Delta-V: >40 m/s

Software:

FSW: protos (JPL) GSW: AMPCS (NASA/JPL)

I&T:

In-house S/C I&T, testing, Tyvak NLAS/Launch Integration

Operations:

Primary: DSN 34m **EDL:** Madrid 70m

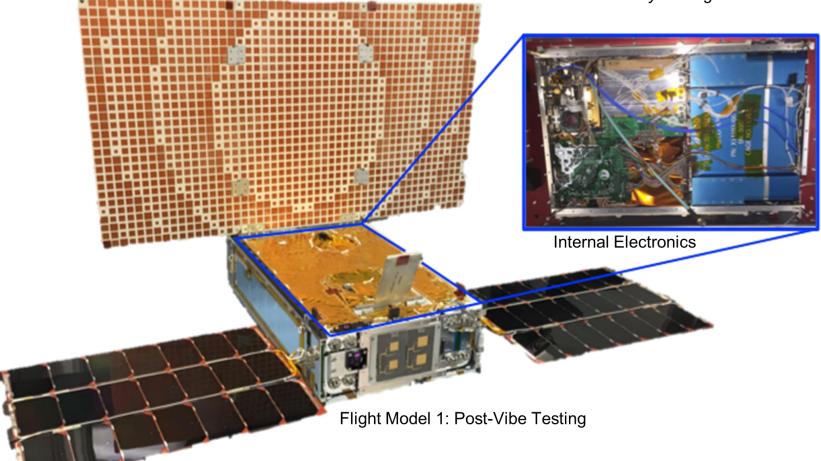


The MarCO Satellite



Flight Deployment Check

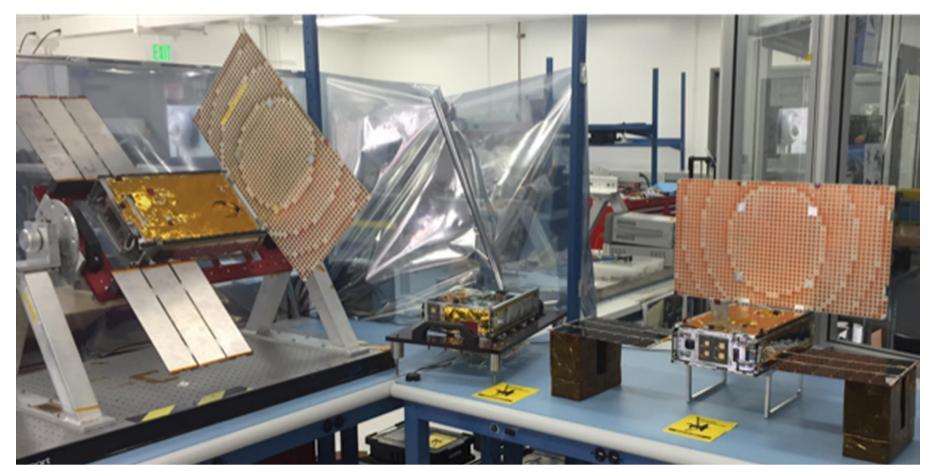
- Post Environmental Testing
- · Ready for Flight!





The MarCO Satellite





Mechanical Model

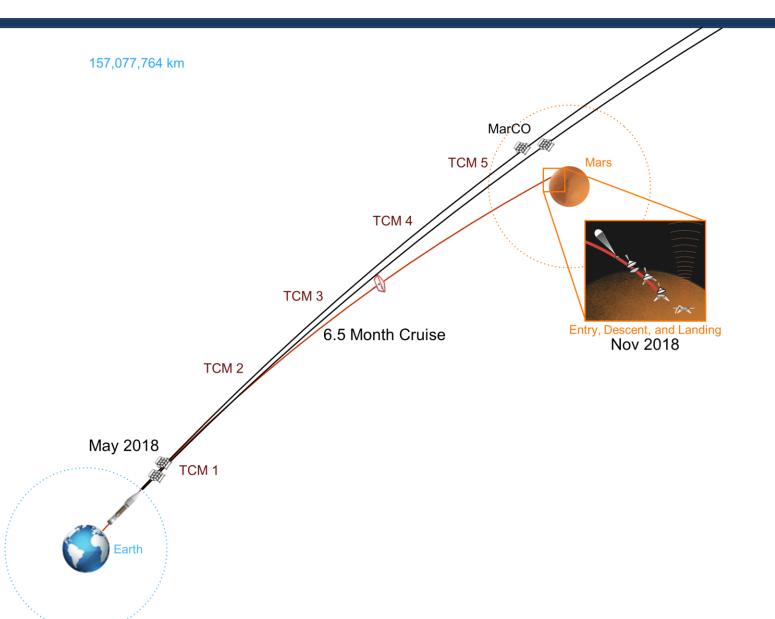
Flight Model 2 (Access Panels Open)

Flight Model 1 (Deployed)



MarCO

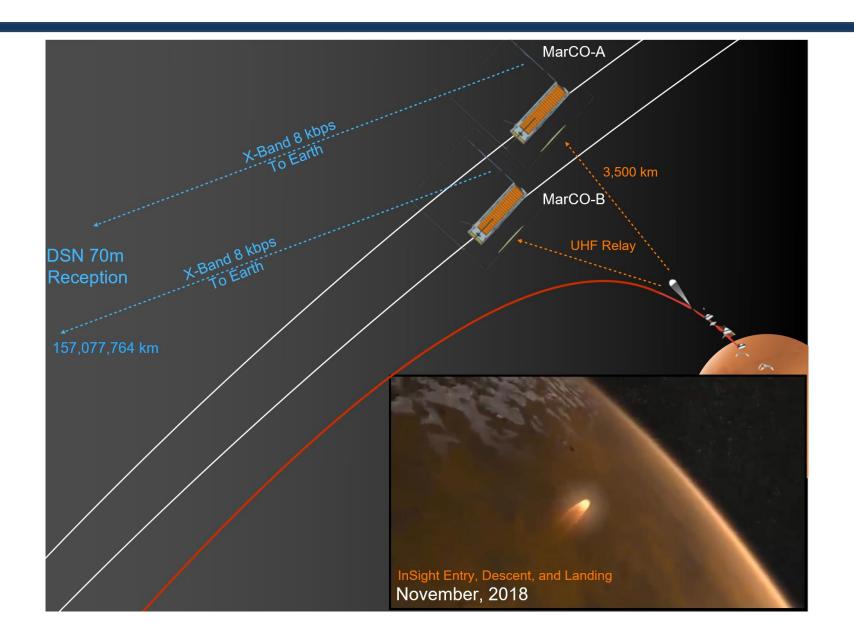






MarCO







MarCO Deployment







Concluding Remarks



- Space Systems Engineering
 - Challenging and fun career requiring technical focus
 - The results of your work will be Firsts!
- General Recommendations
 - Find support groups family, friends, faculty
 - Beyond-classwork experience is highly valued
 - Networking is crucial
 - It's OK to be unsure about your trajectory right now



Thank You!





Feel free to contact me at david.c.sternberg@jpl.nasa.gov

Photo: JPL taken by Kat Riesing, piloted by David Sternberg; 2500msl, 2015-07-12



Contributions



SDTT: Synchronous Docking to Tumbling Targets

1. Robust, fuel optimal, low order and computationally efficient trajectories for a representative range of SDTT

a) Identified that a reduced parameterization of the optimal trajectory exists to reduce the computational complexity of deriving the optimal trajectory for rapid optimization

b) Found that the fuel minimizing trajectories match the radial and tangential accelerations

c) Based upon Finding 1b, formulated a differential equation whose solution results in the optimal approach trajectory

d) Assessed the applicability of the Multiple Models for improving robustness to plausible state uncertainties

2. A process that allows Chaser capability to be evaluated against a family of potential tumbling Targets

a) Defined feasibility space as the set of properties that enable successful SDTT

b) Process to identify the Target parameters that a given Chaser can accommodate as well as design a Chaser to accommodate a user-specified set of Target parameters

c) Since Target properties are uncertain, developed a sensitivity analysis tool to determine dominant contributors to Chaser design parameter variability

3. A process for improving a simulation's ability to predict a satellite's on-orbit performance using constrained 1-g testbeds

a) Created degree of freedom constraints to enable unconstrained simulations to provide motion predictions in reduced degree of freedom environments

b) Validated the simulation of ground performance by modeling energy dissipation for air bearing systems and through a comparison to ground data

c) Validated the simulation of flight performance through a comparison to flight data



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Challenges Faced in ADR Scenario



- Urgency requires <u>computational efficiency</u>
- <u>Minimize fuel</u> consumption
- Target properties are initially uncertain
 [Riesing, Gottlieb, Vallado, Titov, Schueller, Simon]
- Adhere to <u>constraints</u> (e.g. contact velocity and Chaser acceleration)
- <u>Coupled</u> translations and rotations

Trajectory Generation:

Develop robust, fuel optimal, low order and computationally efficient trajectories for SDTT

Chaser/Target
Matching

Simulation Validation



Sources of Target Uncertainty



A Priori State Estimation Through Remote Sensing

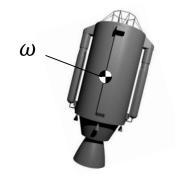


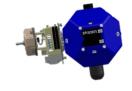
State P_0 with uncertainty bounds

(Gomez Martinez, et al., 2016)



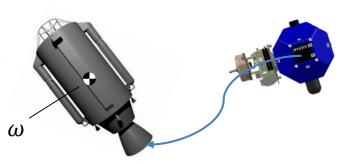
In Situ State Estimation





Approach with Adapted or Robust Synchronous Trajectory

State $P_0 + \delta$ with reduced uncertainty and adapt or implement robust trajectory



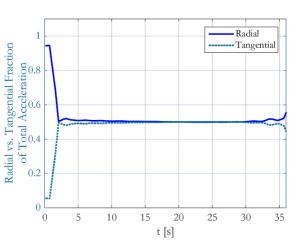


Trajectory Generation from General Tumble Differential Equation

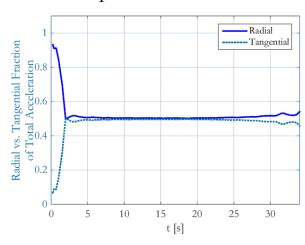


Thesis Contribution: Formulated a differential equation whose solution results in the optimal trajectory

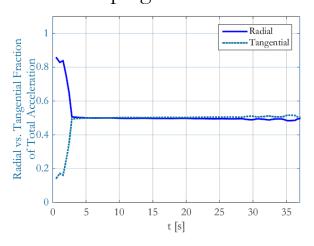
Unidirectional Precession

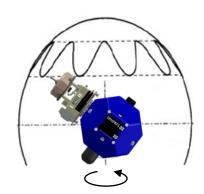


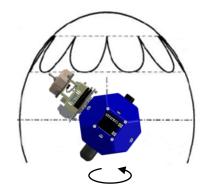
Cuspidial Precession

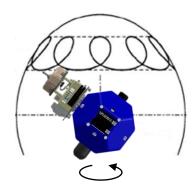


Looping Precession





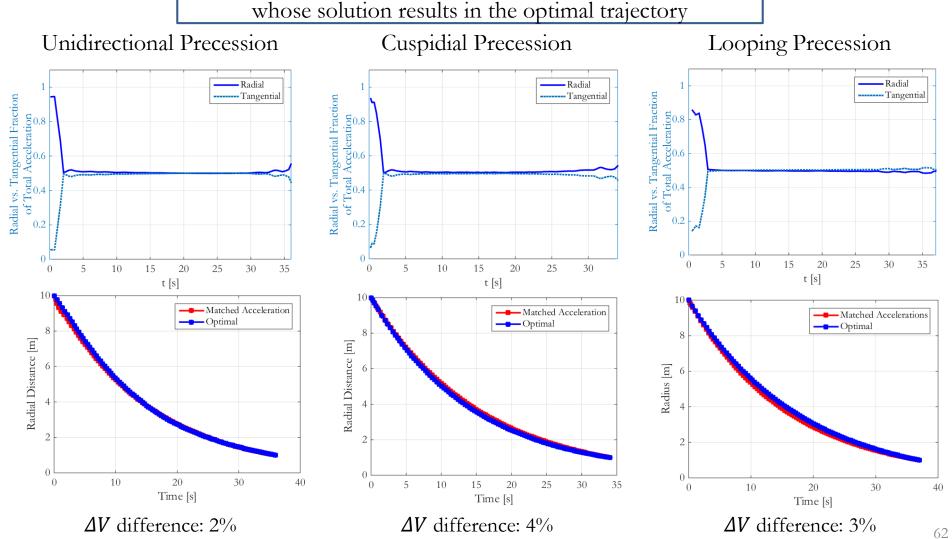






Trajectory Generation from General Tumble Differential Equation

Thesis Contribution: Formulated a differential equation whose solution results in the optimal trajectory





Multiple Model Approach for Robust Trajectory Generation

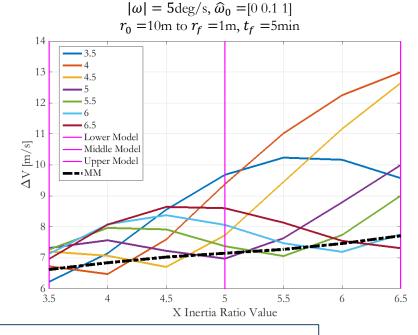


• Sacrifices nominal performance for robustness over a range of uncertainty [MacMartin, Liu]

$$\min_{T} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\Delta V_i(M, T) w_i}{|W|}$$

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} T_1, ... T_p \end{bmatrix}$$
 trajectory parameters $M = [m_1, ..., m_n], \ m_i = \begin{bmatrix} t_f, r_0, r_f, \omega^T, J^T \end{bmatrix}$ models $W = [w_1, ..., w_n]$ weights with probability $w_i = P(m_i)$

- Example: axisymmetric body, varying $J = [X \ X \ 1]'$
 - MM trained on $X = \{3.5, 5, 6.5\}$
- MM provides flattened ΔV cost curve across inertia ratio range



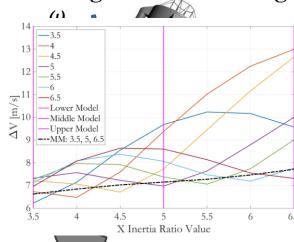
Thesis Contribution: Formulated the Multiple Model approach for robust trajectory generation for plausible property uncertainties



Robustness to Target Uncertainty



A Priori State Estimation Through Remote Sensing

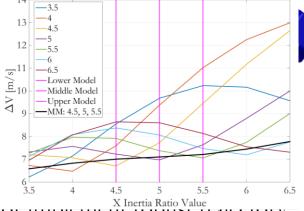


increia ratios

ad range of possible

with uncertainty bounds

In Situ State Estimation

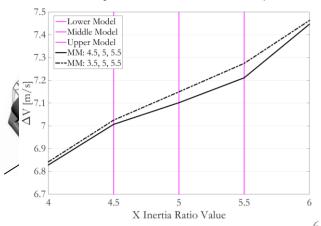


State P_0 and adapt or implement Tobust trajectory

> Narrower range of possible inertia ratios

Developed robust, fuel optimal, low order and computationally efficient trajectories for a representative range of SDTT

Approach with Adapted or **Robust Synchronous Trajectory**









Chaser/Target Matching: Defining Methodology

Problem Statement: Determine the feasibility of docking to a Target with uncertain properties

		Target Selection		
		Known	Unknown	
Chaser Design	Known	Can the proposed docking mission be conducted successfully?	Given a known Chaser, what are the possible Targets with which a docking can be achieved?	
	Unknown	In order to dock to Target, to which parameters is the Chaser most sensitive?	How well must the Target be defined for a Chaser with minimum required margins to be low risk?	

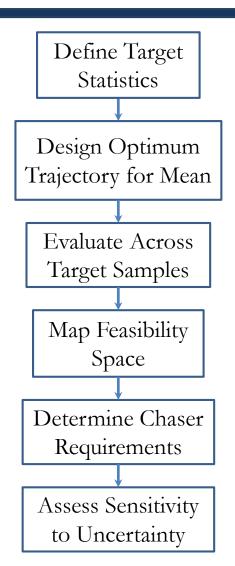
Feasibility space: The set of parameter values over which a given Chaser can achieve a soft dock

Target Parameters	$r_{\!f}$	ω	J	
Chaser Parameters	T	r_0		
Performance Metrics	a_{max}	ΔV	t_f	v_f



Chaser/Target Matching: Defining Methodology





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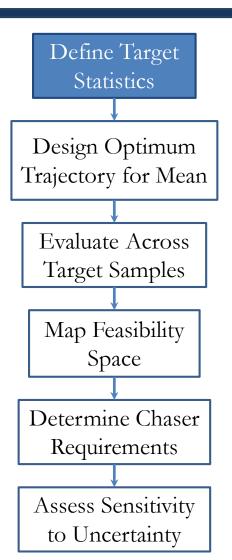
• Feasibility space: The set of parameter values over which a given Chaser can achieve a soft dock

Target Parameters	$r_{\!f}$	ω	J	
Chaser Parameters	T	r_0		
Performance Metrics	a_{max}	ΔV	t_f	v_f



Chaser/Target Matching: Defining Target Statistics





Target space defined by level of uncertainty

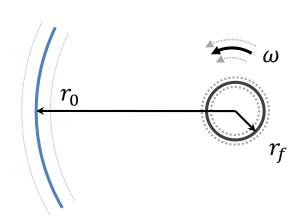
- Consider uncertainty in:
 - Parameters that describe motion of docking port: r_f , ω , J
 - Knowledge of initial rendezvous location: r_0
- Example case with uniform distributions:

•
$$r_f = 1 \pm 0.1 \text{ m}$$

•
$$\omega = 5 \pm 1 \text{ deg/s}$$

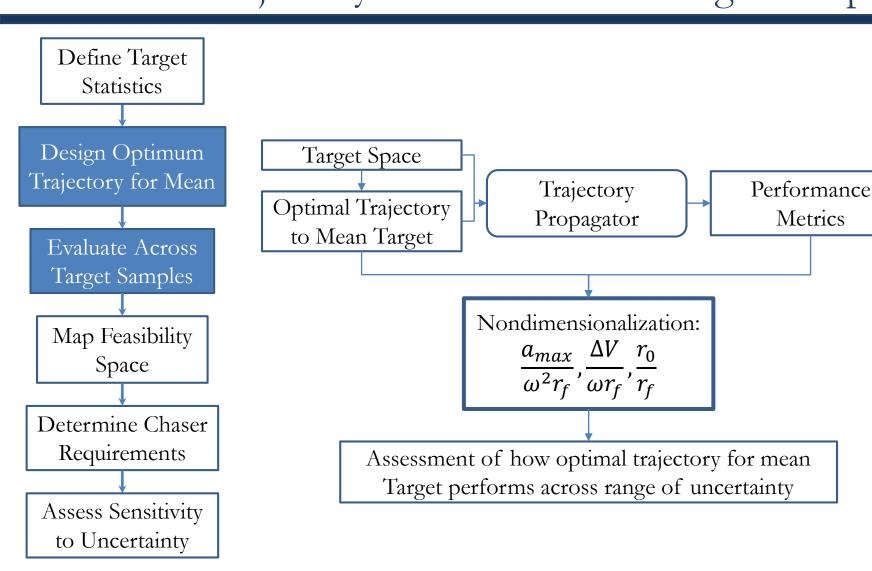
•
$$J = [1 \ 1 \ 1]$$

•
$$r_0 = 10 \pm 0.25 \text{ m}$$





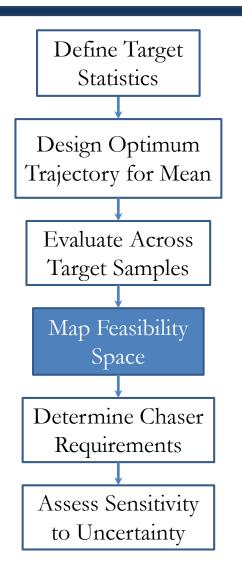
Chaser/Target Matching: Evaluate Trajectory for Mean on All Target Samples





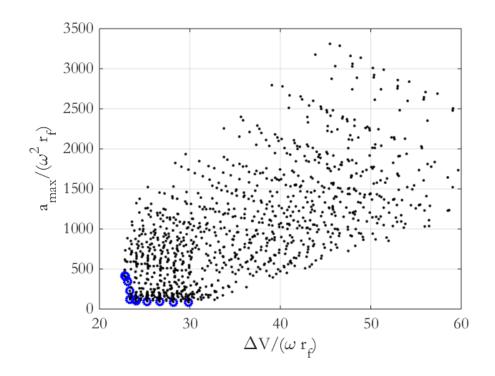
Chaser/Target Matching: Mapping Feasibility Space





Thesis Contribution: Mapped feasibility space to study Chaser design requirements

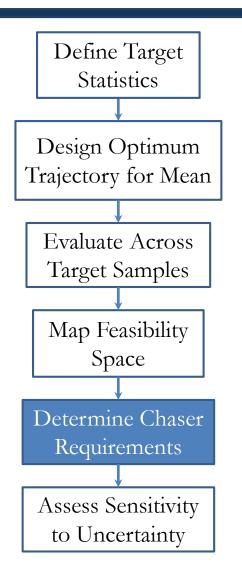
- Shape identifies demands on Chaser satellite from Target's uncertainty while using fuel optimal trajectory
- Pareto points represent minimum Chaser performance requirements





Chaser/Target Matching: Determining Chaser Requirements

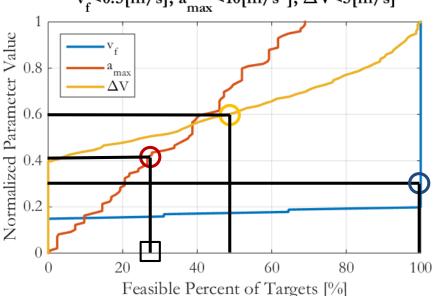




Thesis Contribution: Mapping between Target property and Chaser design spaces

- Market Analysis: Identifying the Target samples to which an existing Chaser can feasibly dock
 - Input: Chaser design
 - Output: Percentage of Targets

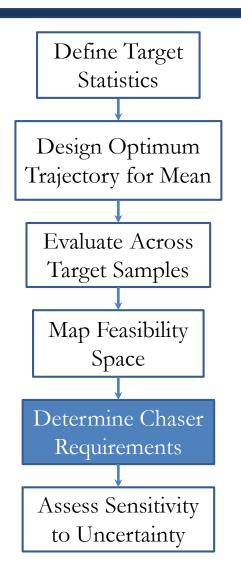
Feasibility Percentage for Normalized Chaser Capabilities $v_f < 0.5 [m/s], a_{max} < 10 [m/s^2], \Delta V < 5 [m/s]$







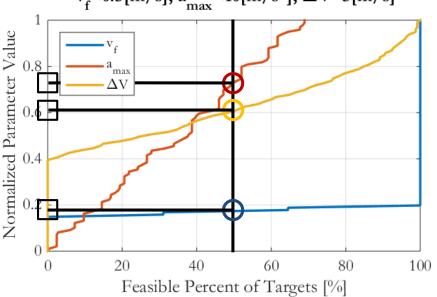




Thesis Contribution: Mapping between Target property and Chaser design spaces

- Market Capture: Determining the Chaser design for docking with a desired percentage of the Target samples
 - Input: Percentage of Targets
 - Output: Chaser requirements

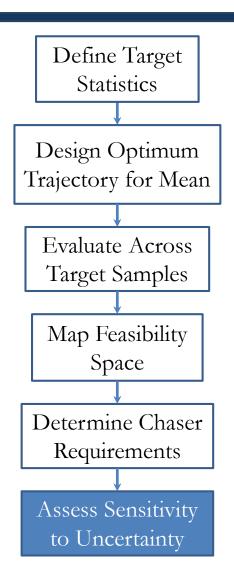
Feasibility Percentage for Normalized Chaser Capabilities $v_f < 0.5 [m/s]$, $a_{max} < 10 [m/s^2]$, $\Delta V < 5 [m/s]$





Chaser/Target Matching: Sensitivity to Uncertainty





Thesis Contribution: Developed a sensitivity analysis tool for determining the Target properties that most affect the Chaser design

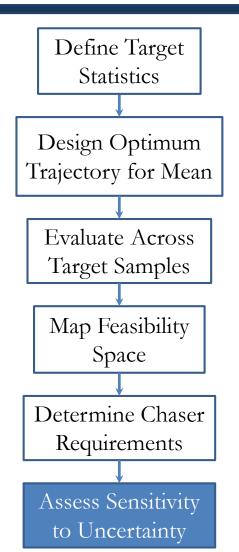
- Compute sensitivity metrics based on simulation outputs at selected trajectory
 - Latin Hypercube sampling
 - Output Metrics
 - ΔV required
 - Relative contact velocity
 - Time until docking
 - Docking success

Variable	Distribution
Initial Separation Distance (r ₀)	0.6m
Docking Port Distance (r _f)	0.251m
Initial Position	$U[\mathbf{mean} \pm 5]$ cm
Initial Linear Velocity	Stationary
Initial Attitude	[1;0;0;0]
Initial Angular Rate	$U[mean \pm 5]$ deg/sec
Target Satellite Mass	5.984kg
Metrology Loss Level	U[3, 50]%
Metrology Noise Standard Deviation	$3.3x10^{-3}$ m



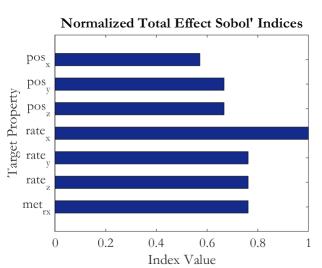
Chaser/Target Matching: Sensitivity to Uncertainty





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Challenges Faced in ADR Scenario



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- <u>Minimize fuel</u> consumption
- Target properties are initially <u>uncertain</u>
 [Riesing, Gottlieb, Vallado, Titov, Schueller, Simon]
- Adhere to <u>constraints</u> (e.g. contact velocity and Chaser acceleration)
- <u>Coupled</u> translations and rotations [Hess, Evans]

Trajectory Generation

Chaser/Target
Matching

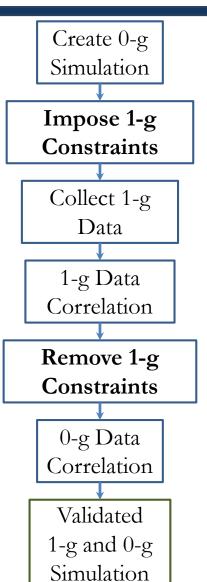
Simulation Validation:

Developed a process for improving a simulation's ability to predict a satellite's on-orbit performance



Validating 0-g Simulation through Ground Hardware Testing





Problem Statement:

Obtain validated models of the 1-g and 0-g operating environments and of the Chaser's hardware and software

Requires:

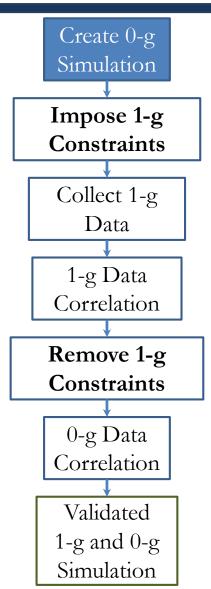
- Constraining satellite dynamics
- Ground environment modeling
- Simulation tuning using ground data (dynamics and environment) and flight data (environment)

Example:

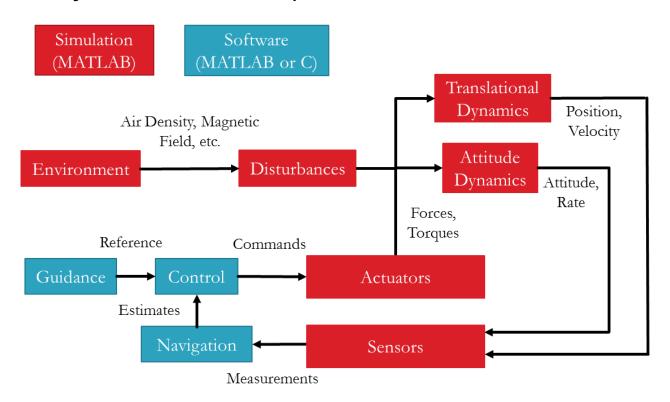
JPL Small Satellite Dynamics Testbed



0-g Simulation Validation with 1-g Testbeds: Create 0-g Simulation

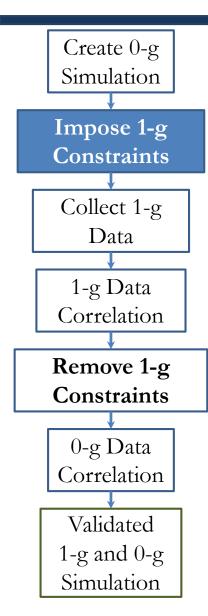


JPL Small Satellite Dynamics Testbed's Simulation

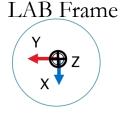


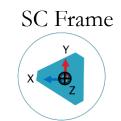


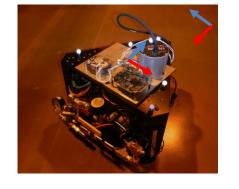
0-g Simulation Validation with 1-g Testbeds: Impose Ground Constraints



• Define reference frames for constrained operation

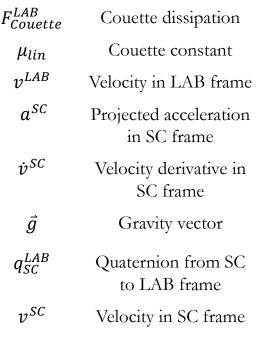






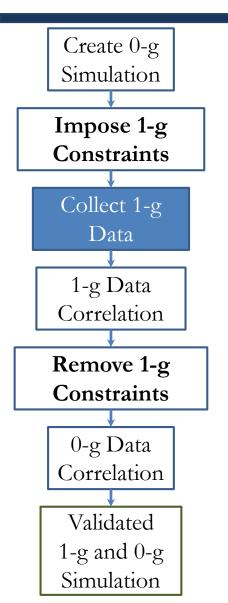
- Determine environmental effects
 - Couette dissipation for air bearings $F_{Couette}^{LAB} = \mu_{lin} v^{LAB}$
- Propagate motion in LAB frame

$$a^{SC} = [\dot{v}^{SC}(2,1); 0] - \vec{g}$$
$$v^{LAB} = q_{SC}^{LAB^*} \otimes v^{SC} \otimes q_{SC}^{LAB}$$

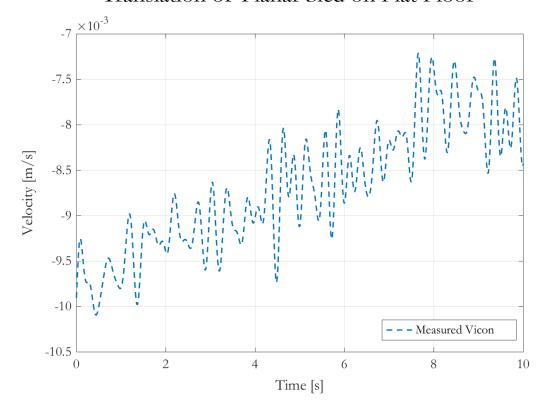




0-g Simulation Validation with 1-g Testbeds: Perform 1-g Testing



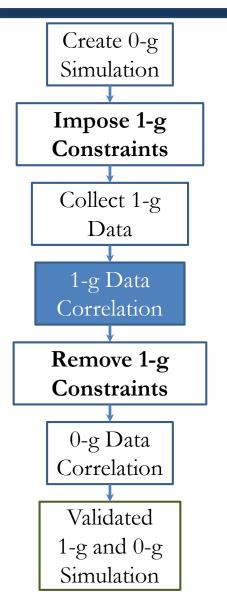
Collect 1-g data to determine parameters of 1-g environment Translation of Planar Sled on Flat Floor



Data acquisition from 1-g testbed captures operating dynamics and environment

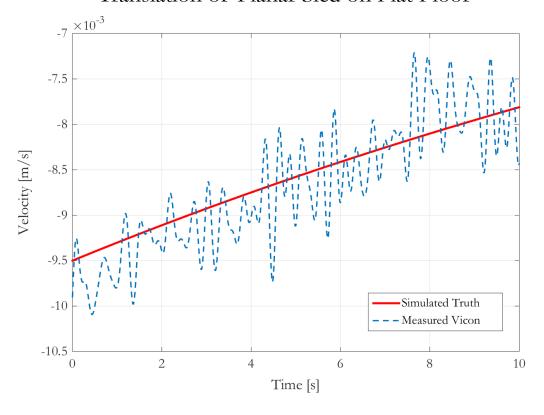


0-g Simulation Validation with 1-g Testbeds: 1-g Model-Data Correlation



Tune simulation using acquired 1-g environmental parameters

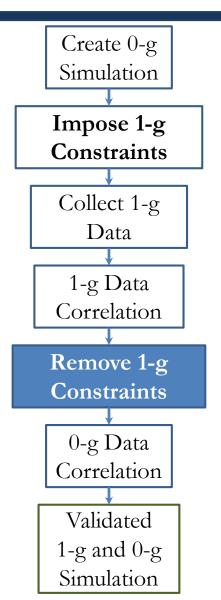
Translation of Planar Sled on Flat Floor

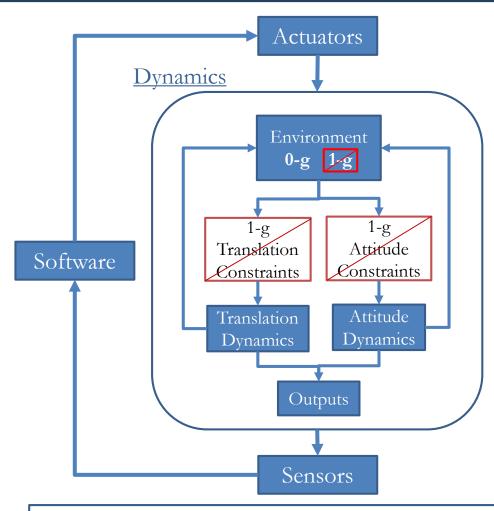


Correlation of 1-g environmental models with 1-g test data enables validation of Chaser hardware and software



0-g Simulation Validation with 1-g Testbeds: Remove 1-g Constraints

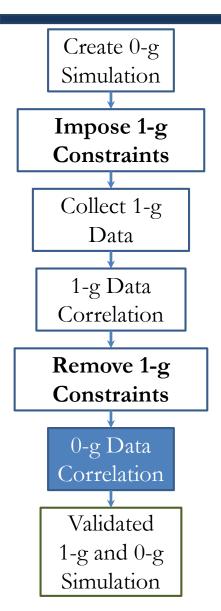




Removing 1-g constraints enables validated models of Chaser hardware and software to be simulated in 0-g

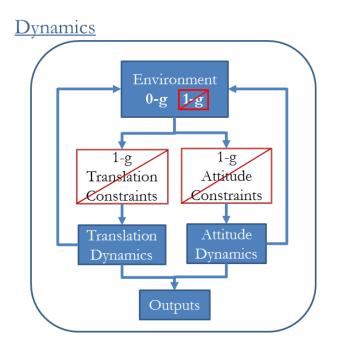


0-g Simulation Validation with 1-g Testbeds: 0-g Model-Data Correlation



SSDT Flight Environmental Models

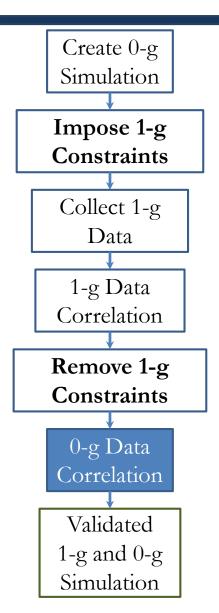
- Disturbance Forces
 - Aerodynamic drag
 - Solar radiation pressure
- Disturbance Torques
 - Aerodynamic drag
 - Solar radiation pressure
 - Gravity gradient
 - Magnetic field



Correlate environmental models with available on-orbit data

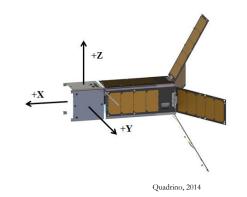
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

0-g Simulation Validation with 1-g Testbeds: 0-g Model-Data Correlation



Number of Sunspots

- Lower solar activity leads to less dense atmosphere and slower orbit decay rate
- Tuned simulation atmospheric model approximates TLE data



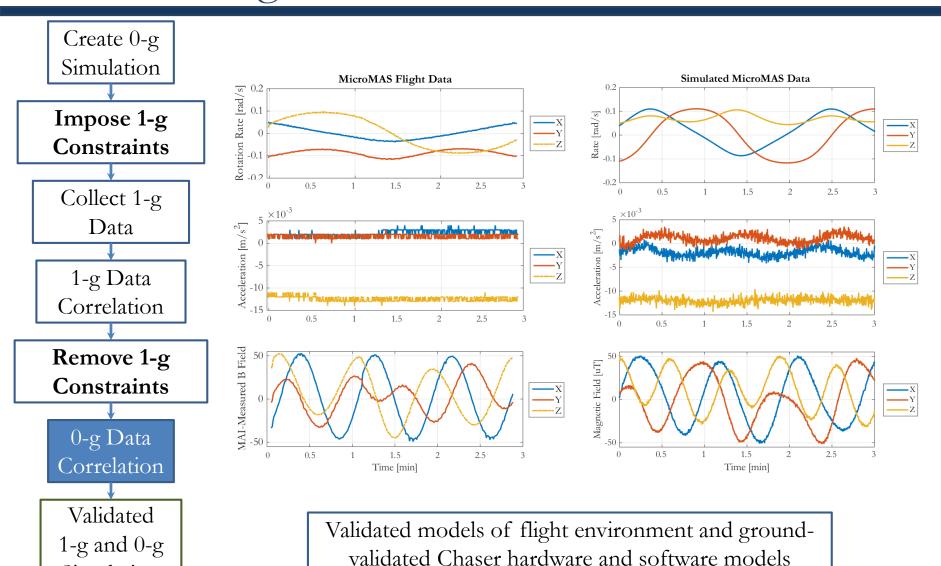
Orbital Radius from Center of Earth 6790 6780 6770 6760 Radius (km) 6750 TLE Data Linear Fit to TLEs 6740 Solar Min 6730 Solar Time Average Solar Max 6720 Solar Low MicroMAS Year 6710 2 6 Day

Correlate environmental models with available on-orbit data



Simulation

0-g Simulation Validation with 1-g Testbeds: 0-g Model-Data Correlation

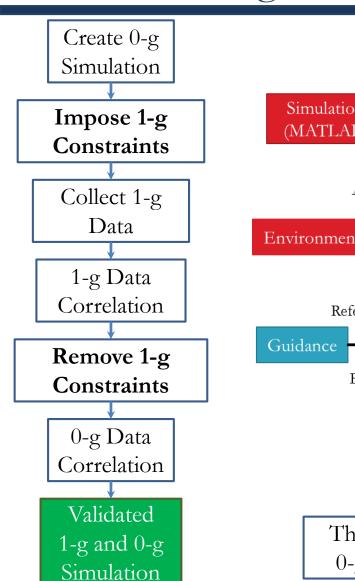


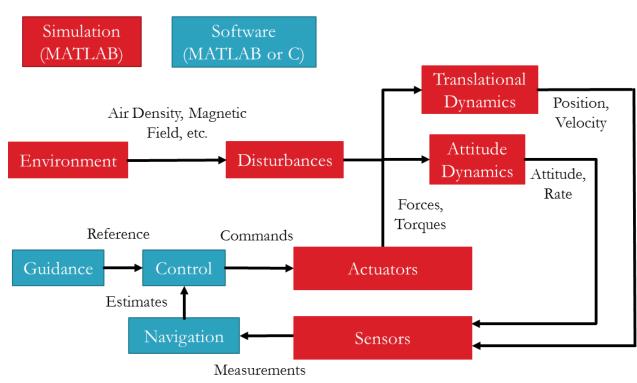
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Validated 0-g Simulation through Ground Hardware Testing







Thesis Contribution: Improved method of validating a 0-g simulation using constrained 1-g hardware testing